

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

## ABOUT OUR GOD

*We believe that there is One God who rules the universe, who is infinite in power and holy in nature. He has been revealed to us in the Bible as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are manifestations of one eternal being.*

Deut. 6:4; Isa. 37:16, 20; 43:10-13; 44:6, 8, 24; 45:5; I Cor. 8:6; II Cor. 5:19; Eph. 4:6

## ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

*We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He was born of a virgin and lived a sinless human life. He offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again someday to earth to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. We believe that Jesus is the Almighty God for in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.*

Isa. 9:6; Matt. 1:22-23; Jn. 1:1-5; Col. 1:9; I Tim. 3:16; Heb. 4:14-15; Rev. 1:8

## ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

*We believe God has manifested Himself as the Holy Spirit to the church—the body of Christ. The Holy Spirit is God Himself. He is present in the world today to convict people of their sins and their need for Jesus. He lives in the believer and provides him with the power for holy living and understanding of spiritual truth. He also equips the believer to become a witness for Christ and gives guidance to do the right things. The Holy Spirit gives every Christian a spiritual gift when they are saved. As Christians we should seek to live under His control daily.*

Jn. 4:13-14; 7:37-39; 14:16-17; 16:7-13; Acts 1:8; I Cor. 2:12; 3:16; Eph. 1:13; Col. 1:27

## ABOUT THE BIBLE

*We believe the Bible is the infallible and inspired Word of God to us. Human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit, wrote it. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs, conduct, and lifestyle. Because the Bible is inspired (God-breathed), it is truth without any mixture of error.*

Deut. 8:3; Ps. 119:105; Prov. 30:5, Isa. 55:11; Matt. 4:4; II Tim. 3:16; II Pet. 1:20-21

## ABOUT MAN'S FALL AND REDEMPTION

*We believe people are made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. People are the supreme object of God's creation. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all of us are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin." God's first created human being, Adam, through transgression and disobedience, fell into sin. Through Adam's fall, sin entered into the world. No amount of good works or church attendance or personal morality will change that. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was sent into the world to give His life and shed His blood to redeem man and to restore him back to God. The salvation of Jesus Christ makes us children of God and redeems us from the curse of the law.*

Gen. 3:1-24; Rom. 3:23, 5:12, 6:23; Gal. 3:13; Eph.1:4-14; eb. 9:14-15; I Pe. 1:18-23

## ABOUT SALVATION

*We believe salvation is God's free gift to us, but we must accept it. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty. Salvation, therefore, begins with faith in Christ and repentance from sin and a self-ruled life. Every believer in Christ must be in obedience to the Word of God concerning water baptism and receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit. All those who have truly repented and have received Jesus can be filled with the Holy Spirit with the initial signs following as on the Day of Pentecost.*

Jn. 3:3-7; Mk. 16:15-18; Acts 2:1-4, 36-38; 10:45-46; 19:6; Rom. 10:9-10; Eph. 2:8-9

## **ABOUT REPENTANCE**

*We believe man's first step toward salvation is repentance. Repentance from the heart should accompany one's faith in Jesus Christ as well as water baptism in Jesus' name and the receiving of the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist preached repentance. Jesus proclaimed it and commanded that repentance and remission of sins be preached in "His Name" among all nations.*

Mk. 16:16; Lk. 24:47; Acts 2:38, 4:12; II Cor. 7:10

## **ABOUT WATER BAPTISM**

*We believe the correct formula for water baptism that was used by the early New Testament Church, biblically and historically was "in the name of Jesus Christ." Furthermore, because water baptism was commanded and demonstrated by Jesus, every person who calls himself or herself a believer in Jesus should be baptized. Biblical baptism needs to be by immersion in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, which is the literal fulfillment of His command to His disciples to baptize converts in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. According to the New Testament, baptism should be performed immediately after one accepts Jesus Christ as His Savior or as soon as is possible. All believers who have not been baptized in water in "the name of Jesus Christ" should do so.*

Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5; Rom. 6:1-7; Col. 3:17; I Pet. 3:20-21

## **ABOUT THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

*We believe every believer who has repented and received Christ can and should be filled or baptized with the Holy Spirit and speak with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them the utterance or the ability to speak a new language. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is received by faith. Tongues are the initial physical sign of the indwelling presence of God in the believer. Every spirit-filled believer should continue to pray in tongues regularly for their spiritual edification.*

Joel 2:28; Mk. 16:15-18; Lk. 11:13; Jn. 4:13-14; 7:37-39; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4; Col. 1:27; Jude 20

## **ABOUT SANCTIFICATION**

*We believe sanctification is the second phase of salvation and is a life-long process. The word “sanctify” means to be set apart for a particular use. The Bible teaches us to live holy and separated lives, and without holiness no man can see the Lord. Sanctification is a definite work, yet a progressive work of grace beginning at the time of salvation and continuing until the consummation of the believer’s life on earth.*

I Cor. 1:30; II Cor. 3:18; Phil. 3:12-14; I Thess. 5:23; II Pet. 3:18; Heb. 12:14

## **ABOUT DIVINE HEALING**

*We believe divine healing is available to all believers and is a part of the Atonement and the New Covenant. Healing can be applied to the physical and mental sicknesses and diseases of the human body. Healing is wrought by the power of God, through the prayer of faith, the Word of God, and the laying on of hands. Healing is a divine privilege for every member in the Body of Christ. It is God’s will that we walk and live in divine health. However, if sickness should occur, healing is available.*

Ps. 103:3; Isa. 53:4-5; Matt. 8:17; Mk. 16:18; I Pet. 2:24; Jm. 5:14-15

## **ABOUT THE LORD’S SUPPER**

*We believe that the Lord’s Supper is one of the great sacraments of the Church. Melchisedec, the High Priest of God, gave the first Communion to Abraham, consisting of bread and wine. Christ, being a High Priest “after the order of Melchisedec” evidently administered the same. In taking Communion (or the Lord’s Supper) we show forth His death until His coming. It is our custom here to have Communion at least once a year at the start of the New Year.*

Gen. 4:18; Matt. 26:26-29; I Cor. 11:19-34; Heb. 6:20

## **ABOUT THE RAPTURE & THE SECOND COMING**

*We believe in the Rapture (catching away) that the dead in Christ shall rise and the saints who are alive on earth at the time of the Rapture will be “caught up to meet the Lord in the air.” This event constitutes the resurrection of the Just and the catching away of the Saints. The Second Coming of the Lord is when He will make a change in the present order of things. Following the tribulation, Jesus Christ shall return to the earth as King of kings and Lord of lords and together with the Saints shall reign a thousand years.*

Jn. 14:13; I Thess. 4:14-17; I Cor. 15:51-58; Tit. 2:13; Jude 14-15; Rev. 19:11-21; 20:6

## **ABOUT ETERNITY**

*We believe God created the human spirit, and it will exist forever. The human spirit will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through the forgiveness of sin and the salvation of Jesus Christ. Heaven and hell are realities of our eternal existence. Those who physically die in sin without salvation, are hopelessly and eternally lost forever in the Lake of Fire. After one's life ends on earth, there is no further opportunity to hear the gospel, repent, and receive salvation.*

*Jn 3:16; 14:17; Rom. 6:23; 8:17-28; I Cor. 2:7-9; Heb. 9:27; Rev. 19:20; 20:15*